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Kearsley Urban District Council.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

1944

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FARNWORTH:  
ALLDRED & SONS LTD. CAXTON BUILDINGS.  
1945

## Members of the Sanitary Committee.

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### *Chairman :*

Councillor R. C. SMITH.

### *Vice-Chairman :*

Councillor O. WILLIS.

### *Members :*

Councillor Mrs. A. M. HOGG, J.P.

„ J. CRANSHAW.

„ J. FOX.

„ W. HOLEHOUSE.

„ E. HOWARD.

„ J. MARTIN.

„ R. MATTHEWS, J.P., C.C.

„ S. J. MORGAN.

„ J. E. ROBEY.

„ H. BARRETT.

„ S. STREET, C.C.

„ R. TYLDSLEY, J.P.

## Staff of the Public Health Department.

### *Medical Officer of Health :*

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Sanitary and Meat Inspector* - F. BROOK, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*Clerks :* T. SHAW (part-time), Miss B. WOLSTENCROFT (part-time).

# Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Kearsley Urban District Council.*

Mr. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health of the Kearsley Urban District, together with the report of the Sanitary Inspector, for the year 1944.

The district has maintained a high standard of health and, apart from the seasonal epidemic of measles, there were but few cases of infectious disease.

I am again indebted to the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee for their encouragement during the year and for the ready assistance of the Sanitary Inspector and the clerical staff.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON.

## STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

AREA—1,720 statute acres (approx.)

POPULATION—Estimated 1944—9,278.

### Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	TOTAL	Males	Females
Births : Legitimate ... ..	189	100	89
Illegitimate ... ..	8	2	6

Birth-rate per 1000 population, 21·2.

Still Births ... ..	4	3	1
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Rate per 1000 total births, 19·9

	TOTAL	Males	Females
Deaths ... ..	119	53	66

Death rate per 1000 population, 12·8.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth—Nil.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

	TOTAL	Males	Females
Legitimate ... ..	7	3	4

Infantile Mortality Rate—35·5 per 1000 births

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..	16
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping cough (all ages) ... ..	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	1

### Causes of Death in 1944.

Diphtheria ... ..	1
Influenza ... ..	1
Syphilitic diseases ... ..	1
Respiratory tuberculosis ... ..	2
Cancer ... ..	16
Heart disease ... ..	28
Other circulatory diseases ... ..	2

Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Deaths from violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Intra cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
TOTAL								119

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

### Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases.

The following is a list of cases of infectious disease notified during the year 1944 :—

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>No.</i>
Scarlet fever	10
Diphtheria	15
Whooping cough	7
Erysipelas	3
Measles	63
Acute primary pneumonia	8

Cases removed to hospital from the district :—

Scarlet fever	6
Diphtheria	15

Tuberculosis—Cases notified :—

Respiratory	5
Non-respiratory	1

The treatment of all cases of tuberculosis is undertaken by the County Council.



### **Scarlet Fever.**

10 cases of this disease were notified, against an average of 29 for the previous three years. There were no deaths.

### **Diphtheria.**

15 cases were notified during the year, against an average of 7 for the previous three years. Most of these were carriers. There was one death.

### **Ambulance Facilities.**

The ambulance service serves the districts of Farnworth, Kearsley, and Little Lever, which authorities also bear the cost, and there is a scale of charges in operation whereby, for a small payment, the ambulance is available not only for accidents, but for those cases requiring hospital treatment.

### **Laboratory Facilities.**

The Lancashire Tuberculosis Committee arranges for the examination of sputa for the presence of tubercle bacilli.

The bacteriological examination of pathological specimens and of milk and water samples is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

During the year, 40 swabs were examined in cases of suspected diphtheria, and this disease was bacteriologically confirmed in 6 instances.

One specimen of blood was examined for typhoid, and the result was negative.

### **Diphtheria Antitoxin.**

Antitoxin is provided by the Council, free of charge, to general practitioners for patients residing within the district. A supply has been available in 10,000 units for therapeutic use. During the year, antitoxin to the amount of 30,000 units was issued.

### **Diphtheria Immunisation.**

Immunisation is carried out by the Assistant County School Medical Officer of the district at the Kearsley School Clinic every week.

A few children are immunised at the weekly clinic for immunisation, held at the Farnworth School Clinic.

# DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Persons inoculated each year from 1936-1944.

<i>Age at date of inoculation</i>	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
0 —	—	—	—	—	1	4	6	9	9
1 —	2	1	10	9	3	34	68	91	100
2 —	7	—	18	10	4	26	36	25	10
3 —	11	1	6	11	4	16	40	29	9
4 —	20	—	21	20	7	25	44	23	8
5 —	24	—	24	34	21	28	28	24	13
6 —	22	1	21	32	8	16	22	21	2
7 —	5	1	12	35	5	20	17	11	6
8 —	3	—	12	32	—	40	15	11	5
9 —	3	—	22	40	1	30	9	5	6
10 —	3	1	12	40	2	32	14	8	8
11 —	1	—	16	28	1	25	14	11	7
12 —	1	—	17	30	1	33	15	2	4
13 —	1	—	21	29	—	20	12	5	3
14 —	—	—	3	1	2	5	1	1	—
15 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total each year	103	5	215	351	60	354	342	276	190

Approximate number immunised at 31st December, 1944 in the following age-groups

UNDER 5.	5—14.	15 & OVER.	TOTAL.
439.	1,143.	314.	1,896.

### **Hospitals available for the Area.**

**General.** The Bolton Royal Infirmary and the Salford Royal Hospital, both voluntary hospitals, are within easy reach of the area, and Townleys Hospital is situated within the adjacent Borough of Farnworth, and under the administration of the Bolton Corporation.

The Royal Manchester Children's Hospital at Pendlebury is also available for suitable cases from this area.

**Infectious Diseases.** Infectious diseases, including smallpox, are treated at the Astley Sanatorium, under the administration of the Leigh Joint Hospital Board, of which this Authority is a constituent member.

**Tuberculosis.** The County Council provides treatment for tuberculosis at various institutions throughout the county.

### **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

The Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinic is situated in Station Road, Kearsley, and is under the control of the County Council.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is held at the Dispensary, Darley Street, Farnworth, and this is also under County Council control.

The treatment of Venereal Disease is carried out at the V. D. Clinic, Civic Centre, Bolton, provided and administered by the Bolton Corporation.

### **Professional Nursing in the Home.**

The Stoneclough Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the County Districts Nursing Association, operates in the Stoneclough area of the district, and the Kearsley Nursing Association operates in the remaining part of the Urban District. The Urban Council makes an annual contribution of £20 to each Association.

### **Midwives.**

Under the administration of the County Council, there is one midwife resident in the Urban District.

### **Water Supply.**

The greater part of the water supply to the Urban area is from the Bolton Corporation. This is a direct supply and is sufficient in quantity and quality.

The Irwell Valley Water Board supplies the area of Prestolee and Ringley, and this supply is sufficient in quantity and quality.

There are a few houses in a small part of the outlying district, known as Giant's Seat, dependent on well water which is not a connected supply.



# Report of the Sanitary Inspector

## NOTICES.

Fifty-nine preliminary notices and nine statutory notices were served during the year.

## HOUSE REFUSE SCAVENGING.

Statement showing number of receptacles emptied during the year.

Privy middens	...	...	...	...	130
Dry ashpits	...	...	...	...	10
Ashbins	...	...	...	...	159,293
Pails	...	...	...	...	364
Total loads removed	...	...	...	...	1,487

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at Bolton Road Tip. This method of tipping continues to be most satisfactory.

## SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The sanitary accommodation of the district at the end of the year was as follows :—

Fresh water closets	...	...	...	...	3,325
Waste water closets	...	...	...	...	96
Dry ashpits	...	...	...	...	1
Ashbins	...	...	...	...	3,226
Pails	...	...	...	...	14
Privy middens	...	...	...	...	27
Privy closets	...	...	...	...	43

During the year 17 waste water closets were converted into fresh water closets, the Council making a contribution of £5/0/0 towards the cost of each conversion.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Drainage is partly on the combined and partly on the separate system. The following summary shows how the sewage is dealt with :—

<i>Sewage Works.</i>	<i>Method of Treatment.</i>
Clammerclough ... ..	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Main Outfall, Kearsley Green ...	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Ringley ... ..	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filter, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Prestolee ... ..	Detritus tanks, aeration tanks, humus tank and storm tanks.

At Horridge Brook and Unity Brook the sewage is lifted by automatic electric ejectors into sewers connected with the Main Outfall Works.

### DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The dairies and cowsheds have been inspected on 113 occasions, and their condition was satisfactory.

During the year 18 samples of milk were procured and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, for tubercle bacilli examination. The result of the examination showed that 16 were negative and two positive. Sixteen samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological tests in the manner prescribed for Accredited Milk. Nine samples satisfied the test and seven failed to satisfy the test.

### INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

During the year the following food was found to be unfit for human consumption and was voluntarily surrendered by the owners, viz:—

- 6 1 lb. tins of pilchards.
- 9½ lbs. of butter.
- 12 lbs. of margarine.
- 4 12 oz. tins of minced meat.
- 1 6 lb. tin of Ox tongue.
- 1 16 oz. tin of peas.

## ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

The County Council is the authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

No samples were taken during the year.

## \* FACTORIES, WORKPLACES AND BAKEHOUSES.

Forty-six visits were paid to factories and workplaces and 37 visits to bakehouses.

The condition of the premises was satisfactory.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Eight houses were found to be infested with bed bugs.

At four of the houses the nuisance was abated by the Council supplying insecticide, but it was necessary to use hydrogen cyanide at the four remaining houses, and this work was carried out by Contractors.

## SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

1st JANUARY to 31st DECEMBER, 1944.

Visits to Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ Property under Notice	...	...	...	...	...	259
„ Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	46
„ Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	37
„ Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	113
Interviews with Owners, Builders, Architects, etc....	...	...	...	...	...	48
Inspections of Drains, etc., and Works in progress	...	...	...	...	...	90
General Visits—no nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	790
						1,418

